

AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT:

Please amend the Abstract as follows:

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

SERVER COMPUTER

~~The problem of the vulnerability of electronic content stored on server computers to alteration by unauthorised third parties is one which has become much exacerbated with the advent of the Internet and the World Wide Web. Present day approaches, including approaches based on digital signature techniques, allow for the checking of content transmitted over communications networks to, for example, client computers, to establish if tampering by unauthorised third parties has occurred. Such approaches all suffer from the disadvantage that any content which has been tampered with is still transmitted over the network to the client computer before such a check takes place. According to the invention however, a~~ server computer storing computer files, each computer file having an associated unique digital signature, receiving requests for access to one or more such computer files, only allows access to the or each computer file if their associated digital signatures are valid. Thus, if a computer file has been tampered with by an ~~unauthorised~~ unauthorized third party, the digital signature associated with that computer file will prove to be invalid when checked and the server computer will not serve the computer file at all. In this way, a computer file that has been tampered with can never leave the server computer, much improving the security of the stored computer files.